

Wickersham's comments and I share a lot of his concerns and feelings about the amendment. Generally speaking, I like the approach of the amendment. I would ask you what your intentions are, if I could, more specifically about the future of the commission. How do you propose to measure whether or not you really want them to sunset or not? Do you have some ideas about...specifically about what you think they should accomplish in the next year or two?

SENATOR LINDSAY: What I would like to see is a study showing here's what our best estimate of what caseloads are, the different factors that go into it, of districts one through twelve, laying that out, and then saying we've looked at this and this is the order that we think judges...either need a judge, and these are the districts that, given a limited number of resources, these are the districts that are overworked, these are the districts that are underworked, these are the changes that would be...that should be taken if we are to equalize workloads.

SENATOR BROMM: Would you expect that those criteria that they would look at would include considerations as to whether or not they have to go 50 miles between courts to hold...

SENATOR LINDSAY: Yes. Absolutely.

SENATOR BROMM: ...court at a given...I mean, that would be a factor, I would assume.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Absolutely. I would not, I mean I...I haven't looked at the statistics for '94 recently, but they...I don't expect to pick up a Douglas County district judge out of it, I should say that now, at least I don't think...I mean, that would be up to them, but that's not the intent...the thrust of it. But absolutely. And you can take districts, for example, and Senator Beutler has mentioned this repeatedly on the floor, but you can compare districts 11 and 12 in western Nebraska. District 11 has, I believe, more square miles, has more population, judges have to travel more and have one less judge. And that's the kind of thing where they ought to be looking at that...

SENATOR BROMM: Sure.

SENATOR LINDSAY: ...and seeing. They...that's the kind of